News Release



Billy Shreve County Commissioner Winchester Hall 12 East Church Street Frederick, MD 21701

Issued By: Commissioner Billy Shreve

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Commissioner Shreve to Host Public Meeting on Drug Awareness Education and Prescription Drug Collection

(**Frederick County, MD, March 10, 2014**) – Frederick County Commissioner Billy Shreve will host a public informational meeting on Wednesday, March 19, 2014. A Drug Awareness and Prescription Drug Take Back Event will be held at Brunswick High School, 101 Cummings Drive, Brunswick, Maryland, in the school auditorium.

Drug paraphernalia and information on drug awareness programs, will be in the lobby beginning at 6:30 pm. The formal program will begin at 7:00 p.m. The Sheriff's Office Drug Task Force and Frederick County drug and mental health professionals will be on hand to answer questions and to educate the public about community resources that are available to help those in need. The Sheriff's Deputies will be collecting unused and expired prescription drugs beginning at 6:30 pm in the lobby. Most heroin addictions start with prescription drugs from the home.

The goal of this event is to educate parents. Students are welcome and encouraged to attend. Commissioner Shreve noted, "Parents should leave the seminar with a better understanding of today's drugs and paraphernalia, the signs their children may be using drugs, and who to call if they need help."

This is an extremely important and informative event. All parents, guardians, grandparents, teachers and community members are encouraged to attend.

"Your community leaders have sponsored this event as a response to the 300% increase in narcotics related activities in Frederick County," noted Commissioner Shreve. The sponsoring agencies include the Board of County Commissioners, Frederick County Public Schools, Frederick County Health Department, Sheriff's Office, Frederick County Government, State's

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Attorney's Office, Municipal Governments of Frederick County (cities and towns) and the State Delegation.

"The collaborative efforts among county agencies and the school system are critical in addressing this serious drug problem. Working together as a community is our best defense in keeping our children drug free," commented Dr. Theresa Alban, Superintendant of Frederick County Public Schools.

"We need to educate parents. We need to show them what kids are doing in 2014 and how to get help if they find their child has drugs or a drug abuse problem. 25% of 12<sup>th</sup> graders have used an illicit drug, and 42% have drunk alcohol. 'Not my child' is no longer an acceptable answer," stated Commissioner Billy Shreve.

If you need immediate help please call the 24 hour Crisis and Intervention Hot Line by Dialing 211, or the Frederick County Health Department at 301-600-1029

For more information, please visit <a href="www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/drugawareness">www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/drugawareness</a> or contact Commissioner Billy Shreve at 301-600-1100 or <a href="mailto:Billy@FrederickCountyMD.gov">Billy@FrederickCountyMD.gov</a>

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